

EASTER SUNDAY

2023

the  
*Resurrection*  
of the  
*Lord*

**St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church**  
Reverend John Esper, Pastor



*“Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said.”*

Matthew 28: 5b-6a



### From The Pastor

‘What good would life have been for us  
had Christ not come as our Redeemer?  
Oh, Happy fault, Oh necessary sin of Adam,  
which gained for us so great a Redeemer.  
This is the night when Jesus Christ broke  
the chains of death and rose  
triumphant from the grave.’

What good indeed! What would our lives be without the dying and rising of Jesus? The Resurrection of Jesus changes everything. Given the ravages of sin in the world and certainty of human death, what would the world be without a human-Divine God who has risen from the dead? Rising from the dead defeats the fear and suffering of death. The redemptive death of Jesus heals the wound of sin and defeats the power of evil in the truth of love.

Each of us must ask ourselves this question. What does the Resurrection of Jesus mean to me? In some tangible way, what difference does the Resurrection of Jesus mean for your life? Accepting that Jesus rose from the dead and is now alive in a glorified and eternal way, how does that impact your personal awareness of life day to day? What does it mean to you as a person in the way you live and love?

Faith in Jesus as the Christ who died and is now alive creates a deep identity and a new sense of self in each of us. Our hope has a face and an identity in the person and the life of Jesus. Contrast this with the life of Peter, James, and John prior to meeting Jesus. They were fishermen who worked hard to make a living for themselves and their families. They lived with oppression from the Romans and the grind of daily existence in a time of poverty. Death was always close by. They held faith in God and the promise of a coming Messiah. Prior to Jesus, this was a longed-for hope over generations of believers. All they could do was wait.

Now Jesus has come. The long-awaited hope is fulfilled. Our hope is different because it is seen and realized in Jesus who died for us and is now alive. More than any worldly Messiah who could defeat all our enemies and oppressors, we have a Redeemer who lives and dwells in us in the power of the Holy Spirit. Our hope is both here and beyond. Christ is our surety and providence in this world as well as our promise of heavenly glory.

As believers, how is hope realized today in our wounded and changing world? How do we build up

hope against all that discourages us? Hope grows directly from the Lord’s rising from the dead. Why? The reality of death in the shame of sin, fears the punishment of judgement. Fear clings to control and fights for security against the threat of vulnerability. The dying and rising of Jesus transforms fear into the hope of mercy, forgiveness, and the promise of life after death.

How do we build hope? Believe in Jesus with all your heart. Trust Jesus in good times and in bad. Exercise faith through a life of love and attentive care for others. These things are obvious and easy to say, but they are not so easily accomplished. Worldly concerns constantly bombard us. Personal needs and concerns continually fill our days. How do we sustain hope?

Be in relationship. Do not be disconnected from others or in isolation. Separation leads to loneliness, discouragement, and poor habits of self-care. Our first relationship is with God in prayer. Built on faith, moved with gratitude, prayer is a lifeline of never being alone. Our second relationship is with the self. With faith and trust in the love of Jesus, we learn to love ourselves with confidence and positive self-regard. This love is the fruit of the Resurrection of Jesus. Divine love raised him to eternal glory. The same love the Father has for Jesus is given to each of us. Despite any hardship we suffer, the love of Christ is constant and secure. Sin is forgiven, mistakes are forgotten, and new life is possible for all who seek it.

Our third relationship is with others and with the world. Through our first two relationships we are secure in the truth and the victory of the Risen Lord. In him, we have power and that power is to be agents of love and compassion for those who suffer. Service and care for others builds hope, strengthens faith, and increases love. This becomes our participation in the Resurrection of Jesus. We learn the rhythms of the Holy Spirit as we perceive the presence of God with us.

We all have sufferings and hurts in this life. We all bear the distress of a dark and sinful world. In the Resurrection of Jesus, our hope is confirmed in the surpassing Light that will overcome every darkness. The victory is won. He is Risen. His Divine glory will one day be ours. Give praise and glory to God this day for the gift and the promise of Jesus risen from the dead. He is alive and through the Holy Spirit, we are alive in him. Bless God with loud cries of gratitude in the joyful hope of our eternal life. Happy Easter!

Father John Esper

*Liturgical Schedule*

**DAILY MASS**

**8:00am Monday thru Thursday**

**WEEKEND MASSES**

**Saturday - 4:00pm**

**Sunday - 9:00am**

**Church doors open 1/2 hour before Mass begins**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

**Saturdays 3:00 - 3:45pm  
in Adoration Chapel**

Only one person allowed in chapel at a time. Persons seeking Sacrament of Reconciliation will be allowed in church to line up at 3:00pm



LIVESTREAMING

**Live Streaming of Mass  
Monday thru Thursday 8:00am  
and Sunday 9:00am**

**Adoration on Tuesdays  
8:45am to 10:00am**

**Livestream of Rosary on Thursday  
following Mass**

Search for St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church (in Madison Heights) on youtube to find our channel or connect via our APP or website

*Contact Information*

**ST VINCENT FERRER PARISH OFFICE**

28353 Herbert St., Madison Heights, MI 48071  
248-542-8720 Fax 248-542-8721  
Website: www.stvincentferrer.net

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday through Thursday**

**9am to Noon - 1:00pm to 4:30pm**

**Friday - 9am to Noon - Closed Saturday & Sunday**

**Parish Office Staff**

Reverend John C. Esper, Priest in Solidum  
Deborah Tourville, Bus. Mgr/Adult Faith Formation  
Sheryl Brown, Parish Secretary/Bulletin  
Jim Balistreri, Music Coordinator  
Mary Ann Przybysz, Evangelical Charity Coordinator/  
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults(OCIA) Coordinator  
Carl Copen, Facilities Supervisor  
Alex Mototolea, Maintenance

**Faith Formation Office**

**Hours: Monday thru Thursday Noon-3pm or  
by appointment 248-398-1743**

Matthew Zinser, Childhood Faith Formation Coordinator

**For information on Baptisms, OCIA and  
Funerals contact the Parish Office 248-542-8720**



**MONDAY, April 10, 2023**

8:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer

**TUESDAY, April 11, 2023**

8:00am Mass: Christopher Hudy (Special Intention) req. by Mom

**WEDNESDAY, April 12, 2023**

8:00am Mass: Bill & Mary Beth Hochstetler req. by Bernadette Gutowski

**THURSDAY, April 13, 2023**

8:00am Mass: Ron Sadowski (28th R.A.) req. by Nancy Sadowski

**SATURDAY, April 15, 2023,**

4:00pm Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer Annabelle Malotke† req. by the Vaughns Peter Conway req. by Mom

**SUNDAY, April 16, 2023**

9:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer Joan Niemer req. by Bill & Mary Beth Hochstetler Joseph Dong Kim Pham† req. by Family Helen Bischoff† req. by Corrine McCarthy John Lamerato† req. by Meg & Sam Lamerato John & Rose Armstrong† req. by Grandchildren



*Readings for the Week*

**April 9, 2023**

- Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10
- Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Mt 28:8-15
- Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22/Jn 20:11-18
- Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:13-35
- Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:35-48
- Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a/Jn 21:1-14
- Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21/Mk 16:9-15
- Next Sunday: Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 (1)/Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31



# Evangelical Service Corner

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MINISTRY MEETING

The St. Vincent De Paul Ministry will meet this Tuesday at 6:30pm in the church,

## JOM EASTER BASKET OUTREACH

This year, through many generous hearts, we were able to take 60 Easter Baskets to the Oakland County Jail outreach ministry. These baskets are given to families of incarcerated men and woman, bringing joy and Easter blessings to the entire family. Thank you to all who were able to participate in this effort.



## Exercise Chair Yoga

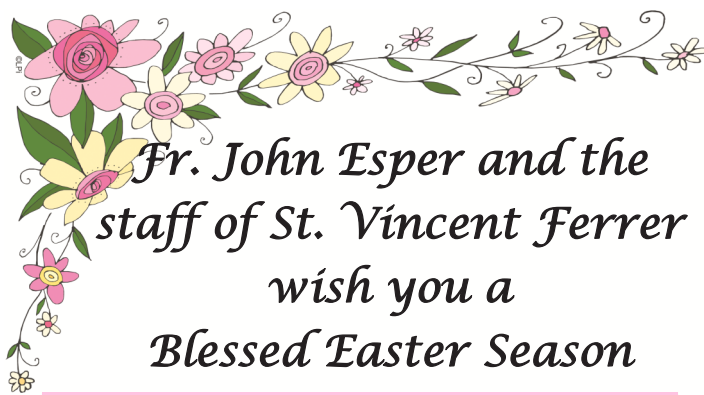
**April 17th - 6:30pm - in Admin Bldg.**

The health survey indicated a large interest in this yoga, so we hope you join us, **Monday, April 17, 2023, at 630pm** for an introduction to seated chair yoga. This presentation also meets our goals of exercise and stress reduction. Chair yoga uses yoga poses sitting in a chair. Our mind, body, and spirit are linked. Chair yoga, as exercise, is a balanced state with the goal of warming up and safely moving your body, creating relaxation. The exercise provides the following:

- Control breath and lead to deeper breathing.
- Increase concentration which can bring you closer to God and your relationship with HIM.
- Exercise and stretch muscle groups.
- Relaxation to reduce stress.

Also, in May, weather permitting, we will start walking after church in Rosie's Park. We are better together.

Angela Maynard,  
Parish Nurse



*Fr. John Esper and the staff of St. Vincent Ferrer wish you a Blessed Easter Season*

*The Parish and Faith Formation Offices will be closed this Monday, April 10th.*



*...all government leaders to seek wisdom in finding a peaceful resolution to the Ukraine crisis.  
...medical and humanitarian aid for those suffering from economic*

*hardship and from complications caused by catastrophic weather, earthquakes and disasters*

*...the safety of men and women dedicated to protecting lives and freedom.*

*...the homeless, the addicted and all who are suffering physically, spiritually, mentally, and emotionally*

*...all who are sick, homebound, undergoing or recovering from surgery, medical procedures, treatments or testing, and those who have made specific prayer requests.*

*Lord Jesus,*

*You are the Divine Physician and Healer. To You, we lift up in prayer all who are lonely, homeless, sick or addicted; all who are unemployed or underemployed; all who are anxious or depressed and all who are suffering in any way spiritually, physically or emotionally especially during this crisis. In their pain and brokenness, we ask that you bring them the comfort of your loving presence. In You, may they find strength for the day and hope for the journey. Amen*

## WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

### Why Marry in a Church?

#### Question:

Why are Catholics required to get married in a church, and not outside or at a different venue?

#### Answer:

Because the sacrament of marriage is a sacred covenant between the husband and wife, the celebration of the sacrament of matrimony is much more than simply a social or family event. So, the rule that the sacrament be celebrated in a church is a way to help reinforce the deeper meaning of Christian marriage. To help make this clearer, the Church's tradition also normally includes the celebration of the Mass when the marriage is being celebrated between two Catholics, and so a church or chapel is the ideal setting. For special reasons — which vary from diocese to diocese — the local bishop can give permission for the marriage to be celebrated in another suitable place.

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# MEMORIAL FLOWER DONATIONS



## In Memory of

My Dad  
Edward & Elizabeth Gauronskas  
Bail & Gajeski Families  
Les & Juanita Fant  
Fred Biber  
Klein Family  
Our Parents  
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Helen & Richard Brzezinski  
Ann & Walter Wiktorski  
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Margaret Mary Withorn  
Sisters, Jean & Irene  
Gregorio Diano Sr.,  
Caridad & Dominador Diano  
Edgardo & Heide Diano  
Honorata Villarba  
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Mr. Jerome Malolepszy  
M/M Brian Malski  
Mrs. Angela Maynard  
Ms. Corrine McCarthy  
McCown-Kairis Family  
McCown-Kairis Family  
McCown-Kairis Family

## In Memory of

Thomas Moran  
Daniel Moran  
Joseph & Mary Novak  
Gary John Novak  
All Deceased Family & Friends  
Anna Baker & Lottie Pasiak  
Roxanna Giardina  
Ann & Art Pasiak  
Jack & Prue Rizzo  
Merle & Anne Petterson  
Joseph Dong Kim Pham  
Gigi Cooper  
SSG Jason Plumb  
Joe & Clara Rarus  
Bill & Krystle Rearick  
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Deceased Fletcher Family Members  
Deceased Riley Family Members  
Kuzma & Sadowski Families  
Iro Salciccioli  
Robert & Virginia Smith  
Edward & Josephine Sczempek  
Robert P. Abratowski  
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Anna & Izydor Stanislawski  
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Sam & Antoinette Gusmano  
Boris & Natalie Waskowski  
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Mr. Regis Welsh  
Ms. Kathy Yanni  
M/M Stanley Yolkiewicz

## GENERAL FLOWER DONATIONS

Dan & Maureen Black  
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Mrs. Marilyn Myers  
Daniel & Bernadette Ravary  
Mr. Stanislaus Reisner

Mrs. Helen Szczerba  
Mr. Thomas Szczerba  
Mrs. Barbara Thomson  
M/M Don Vu  
Mr. Ryan Vu

**Thank you to all who made contributions to  
beautify our worship space this Easter season.  
Easter flower donations totaled \$ 1,929.02.**

## AN EASTER PROCLAMATION

The hosts of heaven exult and sing aloud in mighty triumph!  
 Let the earth be glad as glory alights and night reigns no more.  
 Let the Church rejoice at the victory of her Lord and Master,  
 Who paid the debt of Adam,  
 Who frees those doomed to die,  
 Who heals the broken-hearted and bind up their wounds,  
 Who forgives the sinner and raises up the lowly,  
 Who destroys death forever,  
 Whose Kingdom shall have no end.  
 God our Father, eternal is your love for us!  
 Christ the Son, in victory you reign!  
 Holy Spirit, set the Easter fire ablaze in our hearts.  
 Together you live and reign and ransom your people,  
 one God forever and ever. Amen.

## Easter Sunday and Object Permanence

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

When you play peekaboo with a very young baby who has not yet developed object permanence, you actually feel kind of mean. As soon as your hands obscure your face, their little eyes widen with alarm and their expression crumbles into confusion and despair.

Because they can no longer see you, they believe you no longer exist. Their little brains are unable to understand that just because a thing cannot be seen, it is still there, still alive, still full of love and care and protection.

*Aw, man, you can hear them thinking. I guess I don't have a mom anymore.*

On Easter morning, Mary Magdalene sees the burial cloth but no body. Her human mind makes sense of the situation the best way it knows how, she assumes the Lord has been taken. I'm sure I would have thought the same thing, in her position.

She cannot conceive, on her own, the reality that Christ has risen from the dead. It doesn't matter that he has told his disciples again and again that this will happen. They weren't ready to understand then.

In many ways, Easter is when the human race really achieved object permanence. But we still struggle with it, don't we? I certainly do. So often I can be heard accusing God: "You weren't there. Where were you? I couldn't find you."

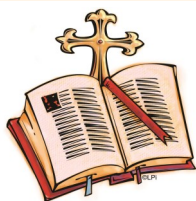
But I looked for him in the flesh. I looked for him in the stale yeast of the world — in money or success or affirmation or (worst of all) convenience and pleasure. Of course, I would not find him there, among the dead.

*Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. — Col. 3:2*

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### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP & SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 9am  
 Faith Formation Office in School



The men's fellowship group gathers for a scripture reflection/sharing every other Saturday at 9am in the Faith Formation Office of the school building. All men are welcome. No cost. No registration is required.



### Come to Christ

Life is perhaps God's greatest gift to each of us. Without life, we would be unable to experience all the wonder of this world, the love of family and friends, and the joy that comes from using our talents and skills. Life

itself is more profound a gift than we can even truly contemplate.

On Easter, we celebrate life. For on this day, Jesus Christ conquered death and gave to us the chance for a life eternal. The wonder, love, and joy of this world does not have to end. Through a life in Jesus Christ, these emotions are heightened, and we find even greater fulfillment in this world.

Maybe this Easter you are finding yourself open to taking a next step in your relationship with Jesus. This could be the moment you decide to follow Him more closely and take seriously all that he has given you. If so, welcome to the journey, where there are many other disciples on that same path who can help show you the way and share their stories. If not, hopefully it doesn't take a whole year for this possibility to be considered again. Jesus is alive and waiting to get closer to you. May this Easter season find you and Our Lord getting to know one another in a whole new way. Happy Easter!

*Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*

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## Ministry Schedule

April 15/16, 2023

|           |               |               |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| Mass      | 4:00pm        | 9:00am        |
|           |               |               |
| Sacristan | T Riley       | L Yolkiewicz  |
|           |               |               |
| Reader #1 | D Tourville   | R Grant       |
| Reader #2 | T Riley       | L Yolkiewicz  |
|           |               |               |
| EME       | D Tourville   | C McCarthy    |
|           | R Pasiak      | P Allen       |
|           | M Simmons     | R Grant       |
|           |               |               |
| Greeters  | R Pasiak      | R Juska-Svoba |
|           | L Proszkowski | S Bosetti     |
|           | K Heffner     | B Gutowski    |
|           | T Pasiak      | R Rarus       |





NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Revival**

*“The Eucharist is everything because from the Eucharist, everything is.”*  
St. Peter Julian Eymard

“The National Eucharistic Revival is a grassroots movement of Catholics, each responding to the gift of the Eucharist in their own way.” According to recent polls, only about 30% of Catholics believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The mission of the movement “is to renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.” Assisting individual Catholics in deepening their understanding of and renewing their love for the Holy Eucharist is key to renewing the Church.

The revival was initiated on Feast of Corpus Christi in 2022. Its pillars are: a personal encounter with Christ, reinvigorating devotion, deepening formation and missionary sending. The revival takes place over a period of three years first by reviving dioceses, then reviving parishes and then reviving the hearts of the faithful. It will culminate at the 10<sup>th</sup> National Eucharistic Congress to be held July 17-21, 2024 in Indianapolis Indiana. (Reservations for the congress are already being taken.)

**To receive inspiration, updates, become involved, find resources or more information visit:**  
<https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/learn-resources>

**LIVE THE LITURGY -  
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

We are witnesses of all that Christ has done — in our lives, in our souls, in our hearts. We have seen the empty tomb. We have touched the abandoned burial cloths. “Go tell my brothers,” Jesus commands us. “Do not be afraid.”

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**QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK FOR REFLECTION**

**First Reading:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43/

Peter speaks about himself and the other apostles as “witnesses” to Jesus’ public ministry as well as his death and resurrection from the dead. What are some ways you could give witness to the risen Jesus this week?

**Second Reading:** Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8

Paul encourages the Christians in Corinth to see themselves as a community defined by sincerity and truth rather than malice and wickedness. Does this describe your circle of friends?

**Gospel:** Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

The two women (Mary Magdalene and the other Mary) experience a range of emotions (from fear to being overjoyed) as they encounter first the angel and then the resurrected Jesus. How do you imagine you would react to encountering Jesus risen from the dead?

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**FAMILIES  
OF PARISHES**

**OUR FAMILY - MASS SCHEDULES**

***National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica***

2100 W. 12 Mile, Royal Oak, 48073

SATURDAY

8:30 am and 4:30 pm (livestreamed)

SUNDAY

7:30 am, 9:30 am (livestreamed), 11:30 am

4:00 pm (Spanish-livestreamed), and 6:00 pm

WEEKDAYS (*Monday - Friday*)

6:30 am (livestreamed), 8:30 am

***St. Justin, St. Mary Magdalen***

1631 E. Elza Hazel Park, 48030 (St J)

50 E Annabelle Ave. Hazel Park, 48030 (St MM)

SATURDAY - 4 pm - St. Justin

SUNDAY - 9 am & 11 am - St. Mary Magdalen

MON-WED & FRI- 9am - St. Justin

***St. Mary***

730 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, 48067

SATURDAY - 4:30 pm

SUNDAY - 9 am, 11 am

MON, TUES, THURS, FRI - 7:30 am

WED - 12:10 pm

**EASTER**





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